

WILSONS' SUITE CHRISTMAS BOWER; AWAIT RELATIVES

Apartment Occupied by President and Bride Beautifully Decorated for Holiday

GUESTS PLAN AFFAIR

HOT SPRINGS, Va., Dec. 24.—A force of decorators today transformed the presidential suite, occupied by President Wilson and his bride, into a veritable Christmas bower.

The President sent a very heavy bag of mail back to Washington through a messenger who left here on the night train. It is understood that included in the list was a batch of instructions for Colonel E. M. House, who sails for Europe next week, and documents dealing with the Ancona case.

PRESIDENT LAVISHES GIFTS ON HIS YOUNG FRIENDS

White House Auto Filled With "Goodies" for Children

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—There was the shrill alarm of an automobile horn. Children at play early today in front of the White House were startled to see the curb a white White House limousine.

It was the President's Christmas remembrance to some of his little friends. The little school children, who had been brought to each, and I. H. Hoover, White House head usher, added "Merry Christmas" to all.

Tomorrow morning they will awaken to find a great Christmas tree awaiting them in the library on the second floor of the White House. It will sparkle with many brightly colored lights, and the boughs will be festooned with packages which Santa Claus, who will have come in the night, will have left.

Christmas dinner at the White House will be in the state dining room in the evening. Today all of the employees in the White House and executive offices are bearing home a large turkey, the regular Christmas gift of the President to those about him.

XMAS AT GERMANTOWN HIGH

Original Sketches, Songs and Recitations Given by Pupils

Two original sketches, written and acted by the pupils of Germantown High School, were the featured Christmas exercises held in the auditorium of the school at Germantown avenue and High street today. Another feature of the program was the recitation of the Christmas tree dance, an original idea with several of the girls of the institution.

The sketches were entitled "The School Christmas Tree" and "The Redemption of Santa Claus," which was a musical skit in three acts. Dr. Harry Keller, principal of the institution, presided over the exercises of the boys and girls. Miss Mary Holmes, assistant superintendent of the school, directed the girls' exercises. The boys' celebration was held at 9 o'clock and the exercises by the girls at 10:30.

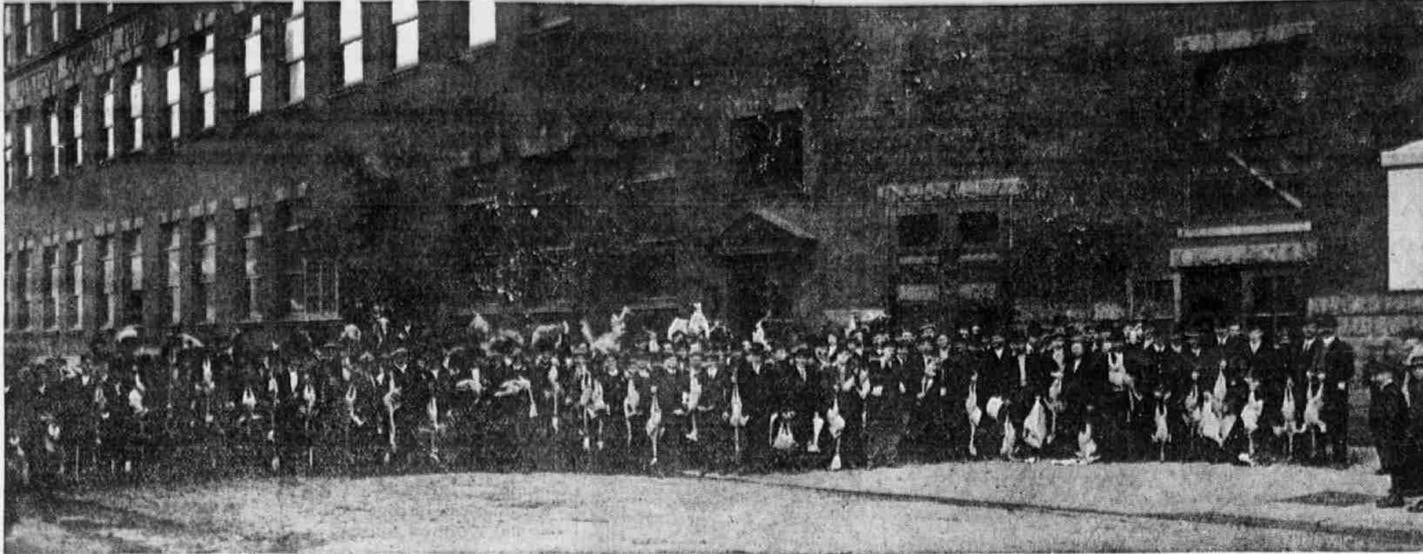
CITY EMPLOYEE REWARDED

Turkey for Engineer Whose Work Was Commended

A big turkey for Christmas dinner was presented to H. M. Packer, an engineer in the Bureau of Highways, by Director Morris L. Cooke, of the Department of Public Works, today for work that brought the best letter of commendation for a city employee received in the year. The letter, which is from the Pennsylvania Company for Insurances on Lives and Granting Annuities, says:

"For several months during the current year we suffered much annoyance and inconvenience by reason of drain water flowing into our building. It was difficult to ascertain the cause, and the various bureaus in your department acted with great efficiency and cheerfulness in the matter, but it was not until late in the summer that the trouble was located. I want to particularly call to your attention the valuable services rendered by Assistant Engineer H. M. Packer, who was energetic, consistent and conscientious on the job, and I feel that the satisfactory outcome of the matter is due in a great measure to his personal efforts."

42,000 POUNDS OF TURKEY DISTRIBUTED AMONG 3074 EMPLOYES OF STETSON HAT FACTORY



TAKE A TIP! THIS IS OPEN SEASON FOR "TIPPING"

Even the Artful Dodger Couldn't Elude Smiling Senegambians and Others Who Expect Trinket, Pour-boire, Backsheesh or Just Plain "Tip"

Apartment-house dwellers and renters of hotel apartments sympathize with the soldiers in the trenches in Europe. While no news would be more welcome to them than that Henry Ford had accomplished his ambition, still they have a war of their own on their hands now, which occupies them almost to the exclusion of everything else. They are not the only ones in the conflict, although they claim they hold the first line of trenches.

The enemy swoops down on him, picks him off his coat, brushes his trousers for the twentieth time and gives him the correct telephone numbers of the persons who have called him up. Retreat or the evacuation of his present position are alike impossible. While they shower favors on him he would gladly, with a song on his lips, fell them with a stone axe. Deep in the mark of the main trench the auditor crouches, awaiting his opportunity. The dumbwaiter attendant carols a light air as he sends the soup on its upward journey and offers his dulcet tones to put the kitchen stove and the wash tub into the dumbwaiter if the tenant so desires.

CHRISTMAS EVE; WHOLE CITY REVELS IN JOY

Continued from Page One A limousine, followed by an older woman, bent and gray, also in furs. There were several packages, wrapped and sealed, in the car. "No hurry, mother," said the first woman. "We must get Jimmy's electric railway, and then see about the turkey." There was the same light in her eyes as there was in the poor woman's. And in both cases it was said as plainly as if they had spoken that Christmas is coming, decorated with green. Christmas is coming there, just as it is in all other parts of the city.

MANY GIFTS TO POOR

Mrs. E. T. Stotesbury Plays Lady Bountiful to 1800 Needy

Hundreds of poor mothers and children in Philadelphia are unusually happy today. Mrs. E. T. Stotesbury, although unable to be present owing to a delayed train from West, played the double role of Santa Claus and Lady Bountiful in spirit, at least, to the 1800 mothers and children who attended her annual Christmas party at the Starr Garden recreation center, 7th and Lombard streets, last night.

KENSINGTON'S "TINY TIM" DEAD OF PNEUMONIA

Ralph White's Many Friends Mourn Loss of Cherry Little Boy "Tiny Tim" of Kensington, is dead of pneumonia and was buried today. His body was buried in the cemetery at 344 Frankford avenue. He was a pupil at the Horatio B. Hackett School, on City Hall tower, Philadelphia, and was a very bright child. He was 50, but in disposition, in his daily contact with his playmates, schoolfellows and those within and without his home he maintained a constant average of 98 and a fraction.

TOWN OF SELLERSVILLE GIVES CHRISTMAS TREE

City Fathers Play Santa Claus to Kiddies Tomorrow SELLERSVILLE, Pa., Dec. 24.—All Sellersville will turn out Christmas morning at community exercises for Sellersville's second community Christmas tree. The tree is expected to be decorated with incandescent lights. Last year a crowd from a radius of 10 miles attended the exercises and even a greater crowd is looked for tomorrow. Tonight the Fidelity Maennerchor will sing under the tree when the lights are turned on and tomorrow morning, when the "kiddies" of the town are the Christmas guests of borough fathers and the general public, the Young Men's Choral Society, under the direction of W. F. Day, will sing. The Sellersville Mosaic Band will also make its first public appearance.

Tonight at 7:45 o'clock the lights of Drexel's town square will be turned on by Burgess Hays A. James and the Fidelity Maennerchor. The tree was planted by Harry Truitt, superintendent of the square, and tended by him since then. Cat's Grave Decorated for Christmas A Christmas tree placed in Rittenhouse Square over the grave of Tom Rittenhouse, a cat that made his home in the square until he died in March, 1914, is decorated for the Christmas season. It was planted by Harry Truitt, superintendent of the square, and tended by him since then.



A reproduction of the medals awarded today to the men who have seen 50 years of service with Stetson's.

BIG-HEARTED JIM'S WIDOW GETS PRESENTS

Many Send Money and Groceries to Family of Slain Waiter Gifts of money and groceries kept coming all day to Mrs. Fitzsimmons, widow of the big-hearted Jim, the waiter who was slain by a bootblack who was being attacked by a man with a revolver. Since Jim's death his widow has been in great distress, was excited from one house and was threatened with eviction from her present home at 1223 South Napa street. But several women who had read a report of this case in the EVENING LEDGER have had a struggle to support her. A dollar bill came by mail with a note signed "Sympathy"; \$2 came from "G. R."; \$1 from "M. E. P."; groceries from Polly Evans, of the North American; \$1 from G. M. Powell; \$5 from a friend of Matthew Griffin, and \$5 and a basket of fruit from an anonymous donor who drove up in an auto and hurriedly departed.

CHRISTMAS CHEER AWAITS KIDNAPPED BOY

Mother of Richard Meekins Has Toys and Tree Ready in Hope of His Return The dancing bear which will not dance any more, because the little boy who got it last Christmas broke the main-spring, was brought out today with all the other toys of Richard Meekins. The 3-year-old boy, missing for one month, is believed to have been kidnaped. But his mother, Mrs. Luke Meekins, of 249 South 61st street, is bringing his old toys out of closets just for the one chance in a thousand that Richard might come home tomorrow.

WOMAN GIVES \$15

A woman who "wanted to give a little Christmas happiness where it was really needed," has contributed \$15 for Mrs. Fitzsimmons and for Mrs. McGonigle, of 1305 South Napa street. The donor stipulated only that her name be not used, and this is published to acknowledge receipt of the money. Mrs. McGonigle, a neighbor of Mrs. Fitzsimmons, aroused the compassion of the women who visited the latter and saw that she was having as hard a struggle to support her four children as Big-hearted Jim's widow.

"SANTA CLAUS LADY" DISTRIBUTES GIFTS

More Than 1000 Children Await Her at Ninth St. and Washington Ave. Hundreds of children assembled at Ninth and Washington avenue today for the annual visit of the "Santa Claus Lady." The youngsters, many of them scantily clad, but happy with expectation, waited patiently outside the residence of Mrs. Mary Kehlmer, of 955 South Front street, where they were each given toys or candy—things necessary to a real Christmas. The "Santa Claus Lady," who wrote a letter to Santa Claus, which he has as good as answered, although he is constantly asking for his brother, and runs to the door from time to time to see if he is coming.

"HIGH JINKS" IN WALL STREET; "PROSPERITY CHRISTMAS" FUN

Stream of Gold Flows to Thousands of Employees NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Santa Claus drew rein in the financial district today and Wall street broke into one of the wildest prosperity celebrations in its history. "High jinks" on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, on the curb and on the Consolidated Stock Exchange brought the younger brothers of Richard, who wrote a letter to Santa Claus, which he has as good as answered, although he is constantly asking for his brother, and runs to the door from time to time to see if he is coming.

GET CHRISTMAS MONEY

Tardy Husbands and Fathers Yield \$5000 Under Legal Pressure Hundreds of wives and children were the happy recipients today of special delivery letters from the District Attorney's office containing money for Christmas. Nearly \$5000 was thus distributed. The money was collected by the staff in charge of non-support cases, which literally squeezed and prodded the money out of wayward husbands and fathers to whom a joyous Christmastide for those dependent on them meant absolutely nothing.

U. S. ARMY AND NAVY MEN TO HAVE CHRISTMAS FEAST

Celebrations Will Be Had on Every Ship and at Posts WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Every ship in the United States Navy and every Army post and camp wherever located, showed real signs of Christmas today. Decorating ships and army stations began today. Another and more important part of the Christmas program was that of preparing bills of fare for the hundreds of ovens of man-of-war-men and at Army stations. Sixty-five thousand pounds of the national bird were required for the Navy alone. Other items on the Army and Navy bills of fare were 6000 gallons of oyster soup, 30,000 pounds of celery, 9000 gallons of cranberries, scores of barrels of sweet and white potatoes, 4,000 or more pumpkins and mince pies and 36,000 pounds of plum pudding. The Navy men were to top off their Yuletide dinners with the best of cigars.

Gives Scholarship to Worthy Boy

MERCERSBURG, Pa., Dec. 24.—H. B. Kessler, of Lancaster, Pa., has given to the Mercersburg Academy the sum of \$2000, the interest of which is to be used each year to help educate a worthy boy of limited means. Mr. Kessler gave this scholarship as a "thank offering" in honor of Mrs. Kessler, who is recovering from a very severe illness.

GETS CHRISTMAS WISH—A CELL

"Here I'm Sure of a Bed and Dinner, Judge," Says Man Who Faces Magistrate Eight men and two women were brought before the Magistrate and he released them all so that they wouldn't have to spend Christmas behind the bars. Jim McGrath, though, was not pleased. He requested the Magistrate to let him stay in the station house.

90 CHRISTMAS BABIES, EACH ONE YEAR OLD, TO OBSERVE CHRISTMAS

Parents Plan Birthday Anniversary Celebrations for the Infants Who Arrived Last Yuletide Ninety babies, who made their entrance into the world on December 25, 1914, will celebrate their birthday anniversaries tomorrow. In these ninety homes Christmas will have a double significance. It is expected that about 120 new babies will arrive in this city tomorrow. That is the figure estimated by the clerks in the Bureau of Vital Statistics, by determining the usual number of births in proportion to the total population. Last year 104 babies were born.

SORROW IN ONE HOME

The 90 who will enjoy a new experience tomorrow—the celebrating of their birthday anniversary—are all who are living of the 104 born last year. Sickness, either hereditary or contracted, made their stay on earth a short one. It is safe to wager on the one name that will be in the majority among the girls born tomorrow. It has been found that parents find a girl a desirable name for their girl's born Christmas day.

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MIDVALE STEEL GETS BIG WAR ORDER FROM FRENCH GOVERNMENT

Contract Amounts to Between \$28,000,000 and \$30,000,000, Company's Volume of Business Large

FUTURE OUTLOOK GOOD

The Midvale Steel Ordnance Company has closed a contract with the French Government for trench shells amounting to between \$28,000,000 and \$30,000,000. This statement is also made on very high authority that between now and Monday another contract with the same Government will be entered into, the amount of which will be considerably larger than the total just mentioned.

This large amount of war order business, which the French Government has on its books, indicates that the company's volume of business booked for the year is not only being taken except for delivery into 1916. The company manufactures a very high grade steel which is used extensively for armor plates and the demand for this particular kind of its products has been unusually large for several months.

The fact that the directors of the Midvale Company have authorized the expenditure of several millions of dollars for the construction of new plants is taken to indicate that the outlook is substantial and that the outlook for the future is for a heavy increase in business.

Directors of the company do not regard the Midvale in any sense as a war order business. The operations being taken up will be a liberal and substantial volume of business in normal times.

STETSON WORKERS GET FORTUNE IN GIFTS

Continued from Page One being absent," he said. He sent good wishes to all.

The Rev. Floyd W. Tomkins, pastor of Holy Trinity Church, said it was a happy thought of the management to have the 50th anniversary at this time, "because it had not been for what Christmas stands for, that it would be no such cause for celebration today. In times that are full of changes as the present, it is something that a concern should be maintained with such unchanging ideals for half a century. Only a great leader can do such things. This company is a great example of the recognition that true leadership should have."

The gifts distributed among employees were 2074 turkeys, with an aggregate weight of 42,000 pounds; 4500 fifth and seventh anniversary medals, a pair of gloves and a pound of candy to each of 1200 girls, 70 hats, 85 watches, 90 chains, 233 shirts and 200 pairs of socks. The Stetson Building and Loan Association, each share having a value of \$200 at maturity; bonuses to every employee; to the more deserving, on their part, the Stetson Building and Loan Association's common stock, the present market value of which is \$400 a share, and a life insurance policy for \$5000, known as the "Twenty Payment Life Plan," going to M. H. Wright, a well-known business manager, on his girl's born Christmas day.

The shares of common stock were divided among 23 employees. Sixty-one received building association stock. J. Howell Cummings, 22 in number, was the only one connected with the company today who was associated with Mr. Stetson when he founded the business—William F. Pray.

"While none of us can boast of 50 years of service, there are a number who have been here 25 years and longer. The names of these men are: J. H. Cummings, president of the company, said in an address that there was only one person connected with the company today who was associated with Mr. Stetson when he founded the business—William F. Pray.

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HEAVIEST MAIL ON RECORD

500,000,000 Pieces Handled in Local Postoffice During Last Ten Days of Christmas Rush More than a half billion pieces of mail will have been handled through the local Postoffice Department by the time old Saint Nick gets ready to slip down chimneys tonight. This is counting only the number of pieces received in the last ten days since the Christmas rush began, said Postmaster John A. Thornton today, and the total volume of business exceeds that of last year by at least 40 per cent, the heaviest on record. In the last few days there has been an increase of several million pieces a day over last year, according to the Postmaster.

In spite of this huge increase the local staff has been able to keep abreast of the flow, and it was stated that the force was in no sense of the word swamped. This is partly due to the fact that more than 1000 extra clerks have been taken on for the holiday rush, and to the fact that two huge windows have been built in the main corridor, where packages can be weighed and mail received in large trays, thus doing away with the old system, which required people to line up and make their letters one at a time in the slots.

The office will be open all night and there will be one delivery at 7 a. m. tomorrow.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1916

KREISLER

Tickets at Heppes, 75c to \$2. Boxes, \$12-18. Direction, C. A. Ellis, Symphony Hall, 121-12.

Rich Richards Almanac. When ignorance is bliss, the crowd passeth thy door to buy elsewhere. Make known thy wares through the prepayments of good advertising.